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Brisebois et al.

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- (54) **ACTIVE EDGE USER INTERFACE** 4,085,302 A * 4/1978 Zenk et al. 200/5 A
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- (73) Assignee: **Nortel Networks Limited (CA)** 5,598,527 A * 1/1997 Debrus et al. 345/173
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- (*) Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2). 5,742,241 A * 4/1998 Crowley et al. 341/22
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- (52) **U.S. Cl.** **345/173; 345/156; 345/172; 345/178; 178/18.03; 178/18.1; 200/5 R; 200/5 D; 200/8 R; 341/22; 341/29; 341/34**
- (58) **Field of Search** **345/156, 172, 345/173, 178; 178/18.05, 18.1, 18.03; 200/5 R, 5 D, 177, 8 R; 341/22, 29, 34**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An active edge user interface includes dynamically configurable flexible touch areas positioned near the perimeter of a display to support interactive communication between a user and a user environment for flexible active touch areas surrounding a display. The interface allows for multiple levels of sensitivity, texture, key travel, and varying widths of active touch areas based on the user environment.

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21 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

